

Message Text

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71

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 COME-00 STR-08 TRSE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 SS-20 NSC-10 L-03 GSA-02 AID-20 CEA-02

CIAE-00 EA-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NEA-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

OPIC-12 SPC-03 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 DRC-01

/183 W

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R 051755Z DEC 73

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6120

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS UNN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION OECD PARIS UNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE EC BRUSSELS 7071

E. O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: ETRD, OECD, EEC

SUBJ: OECD TRADE COMMITTEE WORKING PARTY ON GOVERNMENT
PROCUREMENT

REF: (A) STATE 229120

(B) EC BRUSSELS 6739

(C) EC BRUSSELS 5697

1. ON DECEMBER 4, WE CONVEYED US VIEWS (REFTEL A) TO
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JEAN-PIERRE DERISBOURG, INTERNAL MARKET DIRECTORATE

GENERAL AND THE OFFICIAL WHO WILL REPRESENT THE EC COMMISSION AT THE OECD MEETING ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT. DERISBOURG SAID THAT HE THOUGH THERE COULD BE PROGRESS IN THE WORKING PARTY ON A FEW ISSUES. HE MENTIONED PURCHASES BY INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS SUCH AS SURVEILLANCE AND THE SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES. HE THOUGH SOME "TECHNICAL" MATTERS MIGHT ALSO BE IRONED OUT.

2. HE DID NOT BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT PROGRESS COULD BE MADE ON THE QUESTIONS THE COMMUNITY CONSIDERS FUNDAMENTAL SUCH AS NATIONAL TREATMENT FOR FOREIGN BIDDERS, COVERAGE OF THEECODE AND DEROGATIONS. THESE ISSUES COULD BE CLARIFIED AND DIFFERENCES DISCUSSED MORE FRANKLY BUT HE THOUGH PARTICIPANTS SHOULD HAVE NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT REAL SUBSTANTIVE PROGRESS IN THESE AREAS.

3. DERISBOURG POINTED OUT THAT IT WILL BE SOME TIME BEFORE THE EC HAS A GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT POLICY AND, UNTIL THE EC DECIDES ON HOW IT WILL TREAT THE BASIC POLICY QUESTIONS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY, IT CANNOT OPT FOR ANY SPECIFIC SOLUTIONS AT THE OECD. HE SAID THE COMMISSION HOPES TO HAVE THE COMMUNITY DIRECTIVE ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT APPROVED BY THE END OF 1974. BECAUSE OF THE EC'S TIMING, HE RULED OUT PROGRESS ON THE MAJOR ISSUES ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT AT THE TRADE COMMITTEE MEETINGS IN FEBRUARY AS WELL.

3. COMMENT: IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT EC'S "WISE MEN" STUDY ON GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT IS NOT DUE UNTIL JUNE (REFTEL B) AND ANOTHER COMMISSION OFICIAL WORKING ON THE SUBJECT HAS SPOKEN IN TERMS OF THE END OF 1974 FOR COUNCIL ACTION. VARIOUS COMMISSION OFFICIALS HAVE ALSO TOLD US IN THE PAST THAT GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT WOULD BE A MAJOR ASPECT OF THE NTB PORTION OF THE MTN IRRESPECTIVE OF WHETHER THE FINAL DETAILED WORK ON A CODE IS DONE IN THE OECD. END COMMENT.
HARTMAN

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